

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 01-10-23**

Date Published: October 18, 2001
For Work Week Commencing: October 22, 2001
Business Meeting: October 23, 2001, 9:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.state.mt.us>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Dennis Crawford at (406) 444-6182. He may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated (Dave).

1. D2000.1.1.5 – (Northwestern sale), D97.7.90 – MPC – Northwestern sale and Tier II restructuring – Placeholder to introduce motion to expedite Commission action on the sale docket (10/23/01)
2. D2001.7.100 – MPC avoided cost filing – Annual compliance filing challenged by CELP as intervenor – Placeholder to address CELP motion to compel discovery from MPC (10/23/01)
3. D2001.10.137 – Thompson River Co-Gen – Petition for PSC Review and Comment – To act on motion for protective order and to introduce the filing (10/23/01)
4. D2001.10.139 – Richard York – Complaint against Fairmont (water utility) – Introduction to complaint, approval of notice of complaint (10/23/01)
5. D2000.5.70 – Qwest – Reciprocal compensation – to discuss and get Commission direction on Checklist Item #13 (reciprocal compensation).

The decisions will be included in the Commission's final report for Workshop No. 1 issues (10/23/01)

6. John Doe – Utility customer identity change – Discussion, direction, action (10/23/01)
7. D2000.5.70 – Qwest – Investigation into Qwest's compliance with Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 – Discuss draft report on two emerging services – dark fiber and packet switching (10/25/01)

Weekly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 8:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. MONTANA POWER COMPANY DOCKET NO. D2001.10.134 (Eric)

On October 10, 2001, MPC filed an application seeking authority to issue up to \$150,000,000 of secured long-term debt in the form of First Mortgage Bonds. The term of the authority in through and including December 31, 2003. The term of the bonds will be not less than nine months and not more than forty years. The proceeds from the sale of securities will be used by MPC to refinance short-term debt, and possibly higher-cost long-term debt, and for other corporate purposes. A default order has been drafted.

2. QWEST, N2001.10.132 (DAVE B.)

On October 9, 2001, Qwest filed Tariff Transmittal 01-32, requesting in an effort to simplify the Qwest Local Long Distance product family, effective Nov 15, 2001, that certain Calling Connection Plans be grandfathered to existing customers and no new subscribers or changes to these plans be allowed. The plans proposed to be grandfathered are Business Daytime Connection Plus, Volume Calling Connection, Simple Value, City Connection and Tenant Calling Connection. Qwest will continue to offer its Super Savings Plan.

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.state.mt.us/PublicComment/PublicComment.htm>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

1. MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES D2001.10.133 (Joel)

On October 9, 2001, Montana Power Co.(MPC) and Ken Miller of Laurel filed an application requesting a waiver from ARM 38.5.1602, electric master metering in multiple occupancy buildings. Mr. Miller is remodeling an apartment building with six units in Laurel and has filed the required cost information.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 01-10-30

New Filings Received in Past Week

D2001.10.135 – Montana-Dakota Utilities – MDU gas tracker
D2001.10.136 – Energy West – Energy West gas tracker
D2001.10.137 – Thompson River Co-Gen, LLC – Petition for co-gen
D2001.10.138 – Black Hills Power & Light – Fuel rate rider
D2001.10.139 – Fairmont Hot Springs (Wilder Resorts) – Complaint by York
D2001.10.140 – Public Service Commission – PSC Inquiry – Tcom Line
Extension